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ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
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Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

MAR 17 2014

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
COPPER VALLEY TELEPHONE, INC., AN
ARIZONA CORPORATION, FOR A HEARING
TO DETERMINE THE EARNINGS OF THE
COMPANY, THE FAIR VALUE OF THE
COMPANY FOR RATEMAKING PURPOSES,
AND TO INCREASE RESIDENTIAL RATES AS
NECESSARY TO COMPENSATE FOR THE
RATE IMPACTS OF THE FCC'S USF/ICC
TRANSFORMATION ORDER

DOCKET NO. T-02727A-13-0458

**RESPONSE TO STAFF REQUEST
TO SUSPEND PROCEDURAL
SCHEDULE**

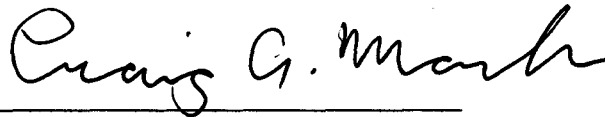
ORIGINAL

1 Copper Valley Telephone, Inc., ("Copper Valley") hereby responds to Staff's Request for
2 a Suspension of the Procedural Schedule, filed on March 14, 2014.

3 Copper Valley greatly appreciates Staff's consideration and cooperation in working out a
4 streamlined process for Arizona's small telephone companies to deal with the potentially
5 catastrophic loss of federal high-cost-loop support as a result of the FCC's Transformation
6 Order. Copper Valley understands that there has been a motion filed with the FCC that could
7 mean, if granted, that the FCC will delay setting a benchmark rate floor and requiring
8 compliance therewith by June 1, 2014. However, there is no certainty that the FCC will grant
9 any relief. The FCC could still soon set the benchmark and require Copper Valley to raise rates
10 to that level or face dollar-for-dollar losses of federal funding.

11 For these reasons, Copper Valley can only support Staff's request based on an
12 understanding that, if the FCC does require compliance with a new benchmark by June 1 or
13 shortly thereafter, Staff will work with the affected companies and Hearing Division to resume
14 the hearings as expeditiously as necessary so as to avoid any potential loss of federal funds.

1 Respectfully submitted on March 17, 2014.

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Original and 13 copies filed
on March 17, 2014, with:

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